

(index.html)

Public Consultation Results



What's happening today?

Your 21st Century Central Library

21st Century libraries look different than libraries of the past. Modern libraries offer so much more than books – they are cultural destinations, social spaces, community hubs, places for creation and imagination, and more.

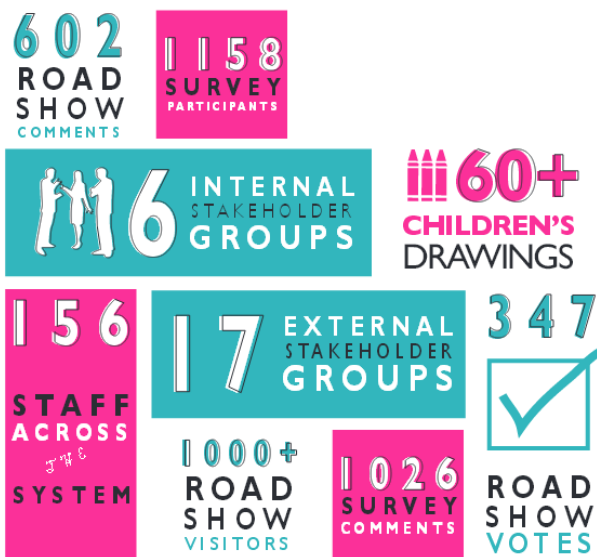
To respond to these new community needs, changes in available technology, and several performance issues associated with the physical building, the Regina Public Library is **exploring options to refurbish, renovate, or replace the existing Central Library.**

A City-Wide Conversation

To help make decisions about the future of the library, the Regina Public Library (RPL) launched a **city-wide community engagement** process in June. Since then, we have spoken with:

- **the general public**, including diverse demographics from across the city;
- **RPL staff and many library user groups**, including children, youth, seniors, literacy learners, people with disabilities, and Dunlop Art Gallery users; and
- **diverse stakeholders**, including representatives from the mental health community; immigration and multiculturalism; arts and culture; business and economic development; heritage; education; and more.

We learned that Reginans care about the Central Library and have a lot to say about its future! Community input is summarized on these panels, and you are invited to add your own.



A Snapshot of the Community Engagement

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GETTING INPUT

How did we reach out?

In many different ways! In order to reach out to broad and diverse populations – including both users and non-users of the library – we offered a range of engagement opportunities:

Mobile Booth at Events Around Regina



Children & Youth Activities



Stakeholder & Staff Sessions



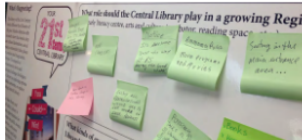
Online Survey



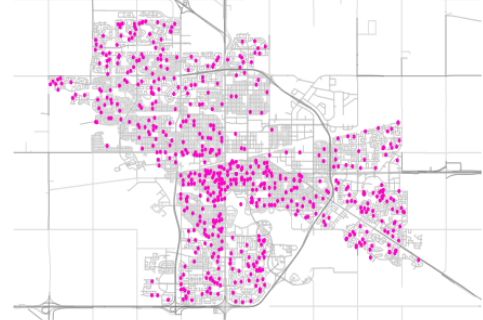
Open House



Panels at all RPL Branches



Distribution of Survey Participants



Did you participate in the process before today?



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SURVEY RESULTS



Who did we hear from?

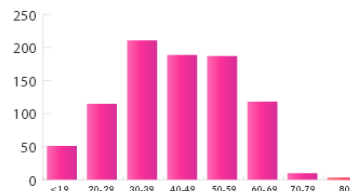
Total Participation

1,158 people completed the online survey between June 25th and August 25th 2014.

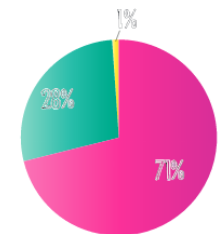


Participation by Age

The majority of survey respondents who supplied age data (66%) were between the ages of 30 and 59. Seniors age 60+ represented 15% of the total responses.



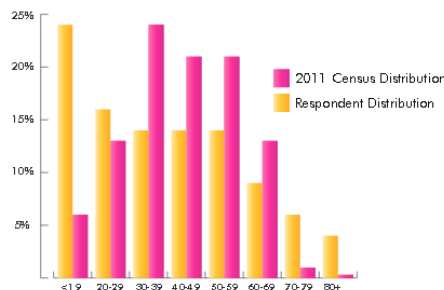
Gender



77% of respondents provided information about their gender.

Age Distribution

A comparison of the age distribution of respondents to the overall age distribution of the city shows that the survey roughly reflects the demographic profile of Regina.



The majority of those respondents – 71% – identified as female, and 28% identified as male. Six respondents (1%) chose to answer the question N/A.

Participation Type - Computer vs. iPad



Survey responses were received through two methods: static (computer) and mobile (iPad). iPads were used by project team members to gather survey input in the community at RPL mobile booth events during the summer.

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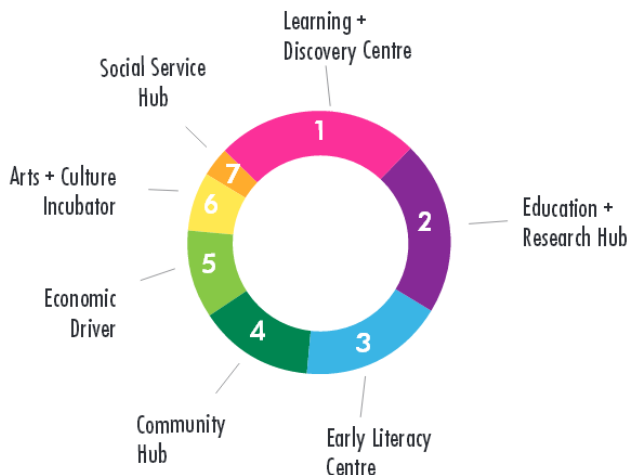
SURVEY RESULTS



Central Library of the Future

What should the Central Library's primary role be?

We asked respondents to rank their top three priorities from a list of options. The chart below shows the rankings in order of preference.



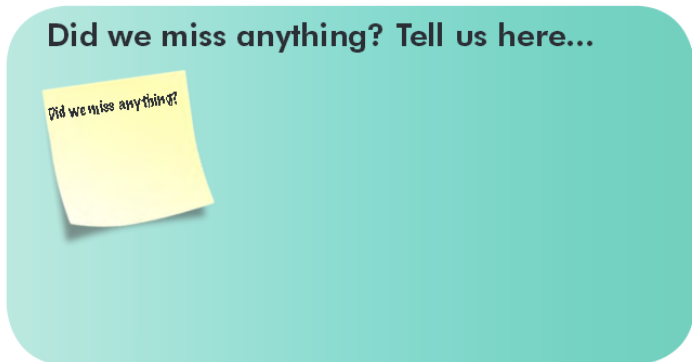
Other suggestions:

"A place for community dialogue and networking"

"Centre for literacy."

"A hub of creativity and imagination"

"An environmental leader"



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SURVEY RESULTS



Digging Deeper

We asked respondents to share a little more information on what they thought the primary role of the Central Library should be...

Did we miss anything? Tell us here...



Learning + Discovery Centre
What types of programming would you like to see at the Central Library?

1. Children + Families
2. Adult Focused Learning
3. Health + Wellness
4. Art + Culture
5. Computer + Technology

Education + Research Hub
How could the Central Library become a hub for education and research?

1. Partnership with local schools
2. Access to university databases
3. Massive open online courses
4. High school diploma programs

Early Literacy Hub
Which of the following programs or features are the most important to you?

1. Summer reading programs
2. Schoolwork help
3. Storytime drop-in
4. Storytime for infants
5. Toddlertime drop-in
6. Games for families

Community Hub
What should be the main focus of the community hub?

1. Access to community services
2. Community engagement
3. Place for formal dialogue
4. Meeting place
5. Place for informal dialogue
6. Newcomer support

Economic Driver
Do you think a new Central Library will strengthen the vibrancy of the downtown, supporting local businesses and other economic activity?

Agree	39%
Somewhat Agree	34%
Neutral	19%
Somewhat Disagree	4%
Disagree	3%

Arts + Culture Incubator
What types of spaces would you like to see in the Central Library?

1. Public Gallery
2. Media Lab
3. Performance Space
4. Music Lab
5. Makerspace

Social Service Hub
Which of the following services would you like to be able to access at the Central Library?

1. Job search programs
2. Access to government services
3. Newcomer support services
4. Housing or shelter assistance
5. Other

Additional Comments:

"Please offer programs, especially for seniors, in the daytime. It [is hard] to attend evening programs."

"The film theatre and Dunlop Gallery are critical in light of the downtown location and the economic barriers present. Many cannot get to the suburban malls or other galleries in the city."

"I think that spaces for experimentation and learning are important."

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SURVEY RESULTS



Visual Preference

We asked respondents to tell us what they thought of pictures of different library spaces. The following pictures were the top choices in their respective categories.

Public Space:



80% of respondents liked the idea of public seating in a plaza adjacent to the Central Library. Many respondents identified the space on the west side of the building as a possible location. Respondents also identified the need for indoor/outdoor public spaces due to the cold winter climate.

Work/Study Spaces:



63% of respondents liked the idea of traditional round tables in the Central Library as long as they are moveable and balanced with enough solitary study space.

Library Spaces:



86% of respondents liked the idea of a cozy setting in the Central Library as they think it would be great for reading and group activities during the winter months.

Children's Spaces:



73% of respondents liked the idea of a Fairy Tale themed children's area as it inspires the imagination and is literary in nature.

Library Exterior:



67% of respondents liked the large windows and natural light in this image. Many respondents identified the excellent natural light in the current library building. Concerns with this image included energy efficiency and bird safety.

Did we miss anything? Tell us here...

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ROAD SHOW RESULTS



Mobile Booth

At the mobile booth – the “21st Century Library Road Show” – we shared information about the project and invited people to post comments on interactive panels and to also complete the survey.

An estimated **1000+ participants** visited the booth at:

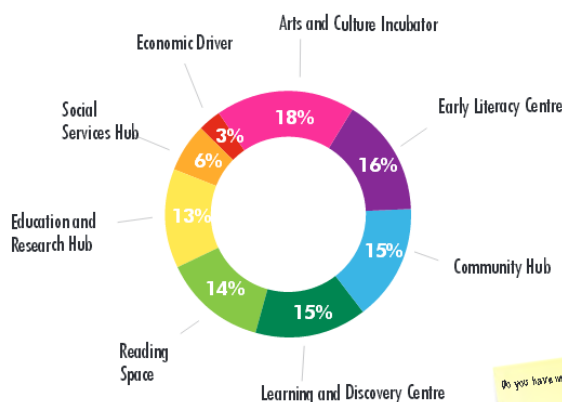
- multiple Farmers Markets;
- Treaty Days in North Central;
- Canada Day Festivities and Carisask Carnival in Wascana Park;
- several Downtown events such as AfroFest, Five Hole for Food, I Love Regina Day, and the Regina Folk Festival.

Interactive panels were also set up in both adult and children's areas of the Central Library, as well as the other eight branches across the city.



What should the primary role of the Central Library be?

Participants “voted” for the following options (for a total of 347 “votes”):



Did we miss anything? Tell us here...

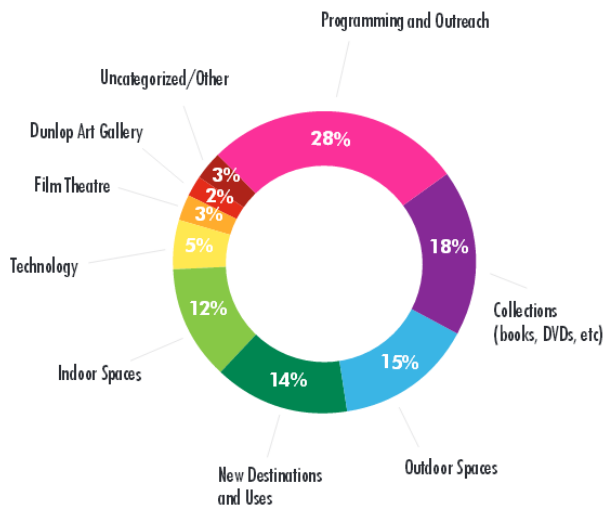
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ROAD SHOW RESULTS

Big Ideas and Desired Experiences for the Central Library

Over **600 comments** were posted at the Road Show and open house in June, and on panels set up in the eight other branches across the city. Comments about "big ideas" or desired experiences fall within the topics below:



Some of the strongest community input themes for each topic are:

Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally happy with programming Would like to see increase in number and diversity of programs 	Collections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desire to avoid depletion of book collections 	Outdoor Spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desire for enhanced parking Desire to renovate, retain existing building or façade, and/or to remain on existing site
New Destinations/Uses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest in incorporating new uses, especially a coffee shop or cafe. Interest in makerspaces and pre-school spaces. 	Indoor Spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desire for improved safety and accessibility (e.g. wheelchair/strollers) Desire to retain quiet reading/study spaces 	Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would like to see improved computer access / availability Would like to see more digital learning opportunities
Film Theatre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would like to see a continuation of unique and innovative programming for this valued theatre 	Dunlop Art Gallery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DAG is greatly valued Would like to see physical upgrades in support of high calibre exhibitions 	Uncategorized <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback ranges from general value of libraries to desire for late fee relief

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STAKEHOLDER RESULTS



Face-to-Face Conversations

Several stakeholders participated in individual and small group sessions, including:

Library Groups

- Staff* across the system;
- Dunlop Art Gallery groups;
- Newcomers and users of literacy programming;
- People with disabilities;
- Albert Community Library Committee (North Central);
- Youth and children; and others.

Other Groups and Organizations

- Social service groups;
- Arts, culture (including multiculturalism) and heritage groups;
- Businesses and economic development groups;
- Government (provincial and municipal); and
- other stakeholders such as the University of Regina Main Library, Seniors Mechanism and Friends of the RPL.

Input received was both rich and diverse, covering many of the topics outlined in the other panels. Examples of representative comments are outlined to the right.

*An RPL staff survey was recently undertaken, with approximately 75% of staff participating from across the library system. The survey was recently closed and so the input is not included here.

"Offer Aboriginal based programming... teach powwow dancing... offer more oral, traditional storytelling..."

-Albert Community Library Committee member

"As a baby boomer, I don't have a lot of eagerness to play cards at the seniors centre... Older adults are looking for programming that's meaningful... life long learning..."

-Seniors Mechanism member

"[The Central Library and Dunlop Art Gallery should be] a community space to share things with people."

-Dunlop Art Gallery Youth Group member

KIDS CORNER



"There are all sorts of literacies. And the library is about enabling the various literacies – that's why the makerspaces are important... And you want something that's adaptable because we can't envision what people will want in five years or where computers will be."

-U of R Main Library senior staff member

"With changing demographics the Central Library is going to be one of the main points of contacts for a lot of new Canadians and people moving here from away."

-Regina Multiculturalism Council member

"[The value of the Central Library building is its] great location... great design... unique visual presence... legacy on site... innovation (was first to have integrated gallery and cinema)... collections... acoustics... proximity to amenities... natural light... location of special services within building."

-Friends of the RPL members

"My definition of a successful Central Library is a place where people know that something is always going on, at any given moment."

-Downtown Business Owner

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We value your input.

Using Community Input

The input received during the engagement process – including input from today – will be used by the Regina Public Library Board to make decisions about the future of the Central Library, including decisions about potential refurbishment, renovation, or redevelopment of the building.

Next Steps

In the coming weeks:

- **Final stakeholder sessions** will be completed;
- **A report** will consolidate all findings and will be submitted to the Regina Public Library Board; and
- **Final summaries** will be presented on panels like these ones, and stationed at the Central Library for public review.

Stay updated by visiting the project web page:
<http://www.reginalibrary.ca/centralengagement>

Thank you for taking the time to provide input today!

Are there any other comments you wish to share?



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